

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A fuel cell unit comprising:

a fuel cell;

5 a sensing unit configured to sense an abnormal state of the fuel cell; and

a display unit configured to notify a user of the abnormal state when the sensing unit has sensed the abnormal state.

10 2. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1, further comprising:

a connection detecting unit configured to detect a presence or absence of a connection with an electronic apparatus operable using electric power supplied from the fuel cell, wherein

15 the display unit notifies the user of the abnormal state, when the connection detecting unit has detected a connection with the electronic apparatus and the sensing unit has sensed the abnormal state.

20 3. The fuel cell unit according to claim 2, further comprising a notifying unit configured to notify the electronic apparatus that the abnormal state has been sensed, when the sensing unit has sensed the abnormal state.

25 4. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1, wherein the sensing unit senses whether or not an inclination of the fuel cell unit has exceeded a predetermined angle, and the display unit notifies

the user that the inclination has exceeded the predetermined angle when the sensing unit determines that the inclination of the fuel cell unit has exceeded the predetermined angle.

5           5. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1, wherein the sensing unit determines whether or not a temperature at an activation of the fuel cell falls in a predetermined temperature range, and the display unit notifies the user that the temperature does not  
10 fall in the predetermined temperature range when the sensing unit determines that the temperature at the activation of the fuel cell does not fall in the predetermined temperature range.

          6. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1,  
15 wherein the sensing unit determines whether or not a temperature during an operation of the fuel cell falls in a predetermined temperature range, and the display unit notifies the user that the temperature does not fall in the predetermined temperature range  
20 when the sensing unit determines that the temperature during the operation of the fuel cell does not fall in the predetermined temperature range.

          7. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1, wherein the fuel cell has a power generating portion  
25 and an auxiliary mechanism for supplying fuel to the power generating portion, and

the sensing unit senses whether or not

the auxiliary mechanism has stopped, and the display unit notifies the user that the auxiliary mechanism has stopped when the sensing unit determines that the auxiliary mechanism has stopped.

5           8. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1, wherein the fuel cell has a mixing tank for mixing fuel used for power generation with water, and

the sensing unit senses whether or not an amount of liquid in the mixing tank falls in a predetermined capacity range, and the display unit notifies the user  
10           that the amount of liquid does not fall in the predetermined capacity range when the sensing unit determines that the amount of liquid in the mixing tank does not fall in the predetermined capacity range for  
15           a predetermined time or longer continuously.

9. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1, further comprising:

a fuel tank installing portion which allows a fuel tank for storing fuel used for power generation in the  
20           fuel cell to be installed and removed, wherein

the sensing unit senses whether or not the fuel tank has been installed in the fuel tank installing portion, and the display unit notifies the user that the fuel tank has not been installed in the fuel tank  
25           installing portion when the sensing unit determines that the fuel tank has not been installed in the fuel tank installing portion.

10. The fuel cell unit according to claim 1,  
further comprising:

a fuel tank for storing fuel for the fuel cell,  
wherein

5       the sensing unit senses whether or not a remaining  
amount of fuel in the fuel tank has fallen below  
a predetermined value, and the display unit notifies  
the user that the remaining amount has fallen below the  
predetermined value when the sensing unit determines  
10       that the remaining amount of fuel in the fuel tank has  
fallen below the predetermined value.

11. A state display control method for a fuel cell  
unit with a fuel cell, comprising:

15       detecting a presence or absence of a connection  
with an electronic apparatus operable using electric  
power supplied from the fuel cell;

determining a state of the operation of the fuel  
cell unit; and

20       displaying an operating state of the fuel cell  
unit on the basis of the determination, when the  
connection with the electronic apparatus has been  
detected.

12. A state display control method for a fuel cell  
unit with a fuel cell, comprising:

25       detecting a presence or absence of a connection  
with an electronic apparatus operable using electric  
power supplied from the fuel cell;

detecting an abnormal state of the fuel cell unit when the connection with the electronic apparatus has been detected; and

5 notifying a user of the abnormal state of the fuel cell unit by use of a display unit provided in the fuel cell unit, when the abnormal state has been detected.

13. A state display control method for a fuel cell unit with a fuel cell and an electronic apparatus operable using electric power supplied from the fuel  
10 cell unit, the method comprising:

determining an operating state of the fuel cell unit;

notifying a user of the occurrence of a first abnormality by use of a display unit provided in the  
15 fuel cell unit when the determination is shown that the first abnormality has occurred; and

notifying the occurrence of a second abnormality to the electronic apparatus when the determination is shown that the second abnormality has occurred.

20 14. The state display control method according to claim 13, further comprising:

notifying a user of the occurrence of the second abnormality by use of a display portion provided in the electronic apparatus when the electronic apparatus  
25 receives the notification of the occurrence of the second abnormality.